

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/811,920

Examiner

Mike Qi

Applicant(s)

ZHANG, HONGYONG

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response filed on June 27, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-26,28-31,33,41-43,45-48 and 50.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/768,066.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/27/07.
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

1) This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 34-40 and 51-72 directed to non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 34-40 and 51-72 have been cancelled.

2) The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Accordingly, the title should be changed into - Liquid crystal display device having a particular conductive layer- -.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 24-26, 28-31, 33, 41-43, 45-48 and 50 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 24-26, 28-31, 33, 41-43, 45-48 and 50 are allowable because the prior art of record neither anticipated nor rendered obvious that a display device comprises relationships of various elements as claimed with specific features recited in the claims 24, 29, 41 and 46:

a conductive layer comprising a same material as the second conductive lines (data lines) or a same material as the scanning lines (gate lines) and interposed between the portion of the sealing member and the first (lower) substrate, and the conductive layer continuously extends along the side edge of the first (lower) substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent ones of the second conductive lines (data lines) as shown in Figs.1 and 7; and the conductive layer continuously extends along the side edge of the first (lower) substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent ones of the scanning lines as shown in Figs.1 and 7; and the conductive layer is electrically isolated from both of the scanning lines and the signal lines .

The references in the supplemental IDS filed on June.27, 2007 such as JP 06-250224, JP 07-159811 and JP 07-318965 teach a conductive guard ring belt, a guard ring metallic layer or a metallic films as a guard ring to enclose or to surround the pixel array display region so as to absorb the electrostatic damage. The references do not

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teach such conductive layer continuously extends along the side edge of the first substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent ones of the second conductive lines, and is electrically isolated from both of the scanning lines and the signal lines as claimed set forth above.

Conclusion

3. According to the amended independent claims 24, 29, 41 and 46, the reference Fuji teaches the scanning lines and data lines as the conductive layer extended along the side edge of the substrate that is not a conductive layer isolated from both of the scanning lines and signal lines, and the reference Tanaka teaches a conductive layer located between the substrate and the sealing member that does not teach the material is the same as the scanning lines or the same as the data lines. The references do not teach the amended independent claims as described a particular conductive layer having same material as the data lines or scanning lines and isolated from both the scanning lines and data lines and extended along the edge of the substrate for more than a pitch of adjacent data lines or adjacent scanning lines.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Qi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2299.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 7:30 am-6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Mike Qi
July 11, 2007